

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF  
February 23, 2025 – March 1, 2025**

**SUNDAY**

**8:00 AM Service of Word and Sacrament; Crary Chapel**  
**8:45 AM Fellowship; Covert Room**  
**8:45 AM Class Meetings Study; Parlor A**  
**9:45 AM Prayer; Crary Chapel**  
**10:00 AM Worship Service; Sanctuary**  
**11:00 Hospitality Winter Lunch; Founder’s Hall**

**MONDAY**

**6:45 AM Christian Men’s Accountability Group; Covert Room**  
**8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours**  
**1:00 PM - 4:30 PM Chosen Ministry; Garage**  
**4:30 PM Monday Nite Meal Team A; Founder’s Hall**  
**3:00 PM Eagles - Knight Soccer; Gym**  
**5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Kids Soccer; Gym**

**TUESDAY**

**8:20 AM - 11:15 AM 3-4 Year Old Preschool**  
**8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Pre K Class**  
**8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours**  
**1:00 PM Staff Meeting; Parlor B**  
**1:45 PM Peals of Praise Handbells; Sanctuary**  
**3:30 PM Youth Handbells; Music Room and Sanctuary**  
**6:30 Epworth Bellringers; Sanctuary**

**WEDNESDAY**

**8:20 AM - 11:15 AM 3-4 Year Old Preschool**  
**8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Pre K Class**  
**8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours**  
**1:00 PM - 4:30 PM Chosen Ministry; Garage**  
**6:00 PM Chancel Rehearsal; Music Room**

**THURSDAY**

**8:20 AM - 11:15 AM 3-4 Year Old Preschool**  
**8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Pre K Class**  
**8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Office Hours**  
**6:00 PM DivorceCare Meeting; Covert Room**  
**6:30 PM Warren Philharmonic Rehearsal; Founder’s Hall**

**FRIDAY**

**8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Office Hours**  
**9:00 AM - 12:30 PM Chosen Ministry; Garage**  
**12:00 PM Senior Lunch; Founder’s Hall**

**PALM SUNDAY FAMILY BREAKFAST** ~ Please join us for a family breakfast in Founders Hall between 8:45 AM and 9:45 AM. Menu will include egg casserole, ham, sausage, hash browns, fruit, pastries, juice, and coffee. At 9:45 AM everyone who would like to be involved in the Palm Sunday Processional will meet at the Market Street doors with palms. Our handbells will lead us into the sanctuary. You do NOT have to be involved in the processional to enjoy the fellowship of the breakfast. Please sign up on the sheet across from the office to give us an idea of how many will attend.

**EASTER EGG HUNT** ~ First Methodist Church Youth will be having an Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 13, 2025, Following the 10:00 AM worship service. Please sign up on the bulletin board across from the office, call 814-723-4930, or send an email to: info@firstmwarren.org.



**WARREN FIRST METHODIST CHURCH  
February 23, 2025**

Pastor                      Rev. Dr. Mark E. Hecht

Visitation Pastor	Rev. Mike Rutenber
Associate Minister	Rev. Jon M. Swart
Director of Music	Ruth Nelson
Organist/Pianist	Michele Sandberg
Pianist	Cathy Peterson
Carillon	Caroline Curren
Soloists	Elsie Giegerich
	Chad Betts
	Gregg Danielson
	Pam Lewis
	Debbie Giambrone
Office Manager	
Susie Zimmerman	Tom Giegerich
Brent Jones	Stephanie Tannler
	Matt McCord
	Rebekah Swart

*We are glad that you are worshipping with us at  
First Methodist Church this morning.*

*Please SIGN AND PASS the attendance pad at the end  
of the pew. If you are visiting with us, we would  
especially appreciate having your name, address, and  
phone number because we would like to thank you for  
being with us.*

200 Market St.  
Warren, PA 16365  
814-723-4930  
info@firstmwarren.org  
www.firstmwarren.org

**Service of Word and Sacrament**  
**8:00 AM**

**PRELUDE** "Neo-Classique" Mark Hayes  
"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" arr Hayes

**WELCOME**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 99**

Leader: The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble;

**People: He sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.**

Leader: Great is the Lord in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations.

**People: Let them praise your great and awesome name — he is holy.**

Leader: The King is mighty, he loves justice - you have established equity;

**People: in Jacob you have done what is just and right.**

**All: Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool; he is holy.**

**\*HYMN No. 434** "Standing on the Promises"

**OLD TESTAMENT** "Genesis 17:1-8" Pew Bible Pages 12 -13  
"Proverbs 18:10" Pew Bible Page 589

**CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (using sins)

*Our Father; who art in heaven Hallowed be Thy Name.*

*Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth,*

*as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,*

*and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom, and the power; and the glory, forever.*

*Amen.*

**\*HYMN No. 35** "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" Ein' Feste Burg

**SCRIPTURE** "Philippians 2:5-11" Pew Bible Page 1069

**MESSAGE** "Run to God" Rev. Mike Rutenber

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**\*HYMN No. 44** "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** "Lead on, o King Eternal" arr Long

**\*Indicates Please Stand if Able**

Please place offerings in the offertory plate as you exit the chapel.  
We welcome you to share some fellowship in the Covert Room  
after the service.

**Worship Service**  
**10:00 AM**

**PRELUDE** "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" arr. Beck  
"Improvisation on Diademata" Broughton  
"Meditation" Jules Massenet

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God has set this day before us,

**People: A day set apart, a day of rest and praise.**

Leader: God has set our lives before us,

**People: A span of years in which we love, and learn, and serve.**

Leader: God has set God's seal upon our hearts,

**People: So that we might live fully in deep love.**

Leader: Let us worship God.

**\*HYMN No. 434** "Standing on the Promises"

**WELCOME**

**ANTHEM** "Ezekiel's Wheel" arr. Philip Kern

**OLD TESTAMENT** "Psalm 27" Pew Bible Page 493

**CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (using sins)

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*Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth,*

*as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,*

*and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom, and the power; and the glory, forever.*

*Amen.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** "Precious Lord" arr. Doris Akers

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

\*Doxology No. 682

\*Offertory Prayer

**\*HYMN No. 607** "All to Jesus I Surrender"  
*(Children are welcome to come forward for the Children's Message  
during the last verse.)*

**A MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES** Mary Jo Zubrod

**SCRIPTURE** "Romans 12:1 - 8" Pew Bible Pages 1033 - 1034

**MESSAGE** "Transformed" Rev. Dr. Mark E. Hecht

**\*HYMN No. 603** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" Assam

**BENEDICTION**

**BEARING OF LIGHT**

**POSTLUDE** "Voluntary in D Major" Charpentier

**\* Indicates Please Stand if Able**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are in loving memory of Charles and Jane Frantz, given by Their Family

**PEDESTAL FLOWERS** today are in loving memory of Charles R. Frantz, given by His Family.

**CONCERNS FOR THIS WEEK** ~ Pat Harpster, 809 Chase Drive, Warren, PA 16365 - Please consider sending her a card.

**MUSIC IN THE AFTERNOON** ~ Our church is hosting two wonderful afternoons of music in March. First, we are very excited that Brian Bogey will present an organ recital on Sunday, March 23rd at 4 PM as we rededicate our renovated pipe organ. A reception will follow this recital. Then, on Sunday, March 30th, at 4 PM, we will host the Astralis Chamber Ensemble featuring flute, viola, and harp. This group was here two years ago but with a harpsichord, not a harp. We ask that you invite your friends and neighbors to these concerts. If you are interested and able to be a financial sponsor for either or both of these groups, please make your donation through the office by March 1st. Thank you for your support and PLEASE plan to come.

**LUNCH FELLOWSHIP** ~ Hospitality will host a lunch fellowship today following the 10:00 AM worship service.

**LENTEN STUDY** ~ Rev. Hecht will lead a study on prayer to help the participants grow deeper in their personal relationship with God through prayer. This study will take place during the six weeks of Lent. Classes will once again meet on Monday Evenings and Tuesday Afternoons beginning on March 10th. Each class will be 75 minutes in length. Books are available in the office, and sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board across from the office. Please see today's bulletin insert for more information.

**LENTEN SOUP STUDY** ~ This year for our Soup and Study we will focus on several individuals who labored faithfully to lay the foundation and build the pillars of the Church. We will learn more about how their story connects with our own. Obviously, there are scores of individuals who have influenced the church over the ages. The six weeks of Lent provide us an opportunity to focus on several of the more significant figures of the past. This study will begin on Tuesday March 11th. To make sure we prepare enough for all participants, please sign up on the bulletin board across from the office. You can also contact the church office at 814-723-4930. Please see today's bulletin insert for more information.

**USHER LUNCHEON** ~ A luncheon for all ushers and their families will be held in Founder's Hall next Sunday, March 2nd, after the 10:00 AM service. Usher teams will be reviewed and any updates discussed. Please sign up on the bulletin board across from the office or call the office by Tuesday, February 25th.

**MARCH MACARONI MADNESS** ~ As a way to help support the needs of local food pantries, First Methodist Church will be collecting macaroni throughout March. Bring any type of macaroni in to the church and place it into the "Macaroni Madness" container.

## A Lenten Study on Prayer “Prayer Begins with Relationship”

On Ash Wednesday (March 5<sup>th</sup>), we begin the holy season of Lent. Lent is a forty-day time of preparation for Easter. This year, First Methodist Church wants to be especially attentive to “HOW” we choose to prepare for Easter.

A word that is often used this time of year is “Repent.” To repent literally means to “turn back from”. The season of Lent is meant to help us “turn back” or away from our sinfulness and towards our God. We are given the opportunity to turn away from doing the things that are not of God and return to God.

One of the most important things we can do is pray. In fact, we believe prayer to be so important that we are offering a six week study on prayer during the six weeks of Lent. Last fall nearly 50 members of our church participated in our “Christian to the Core” study that focused us on the fundamental pieces of our life in Christ that help us be the church.

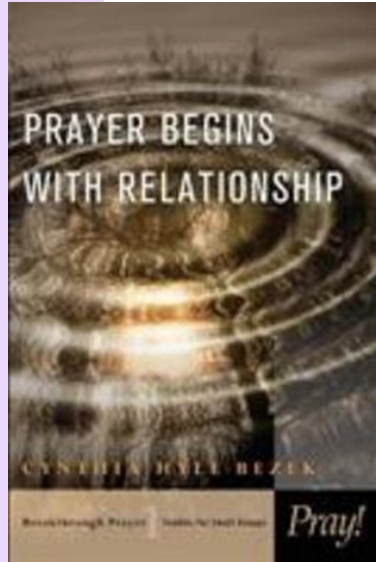
This study on prayer entitled “Prayer Begins with Relationship” is an excellent next step for many who participated previously. We would strongly encourage you to consider committing six weeks to this study. Dr. Hecht will be leading this study that will help the participant grow deeper in their personal relationship with God through prayer.

Classes will once again meet on Monday Evenings and Tuesday Afternoons. Each class will be 75 minutes in length.

As a community of faith, we are all invited to do our best to spend time in worship, personal reflection and the reading of the scriptures. This season we invite you to seriously focus also on PRAYER.

May we take this time to learn more about God and God’s ways and respond in faith.

Books are available in the office and sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board across from the office.



Monday 6:15 – 7:30	Tuesday 12:15 – 1:30
March 10	March 11
March 17	March 18
March 24	March 25
March 31	April 1
April 7	April 8
April 14	April 15

## First Methodist Church *Lenten SOUP Study*

**Tuesdays in Founder’s Hall**  
**Soup Served at 5:15 PM – Study Begins at 5:30 PM**  
**March 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup>**

The forty days of Lent are traditionally set aside to reflect on matters of faith and recommit to living out the faith we claim. We rarely, however, take the time to attempt to understand how that faith has been passed down to us! The simple reality is that Christianity wouldn’t be what it is if not for individuals who labored faithfully to lay the foundation and build the pillars of the Church.

This year, for our Soup and Study, we will focus on several of these persons and learn more about how their story connects with our own. Obviously, there are scores of individuals who have influenced the church over the ages. The six weeks of Lent provide us an opportunity to focus on several of the more significant figures of the past.

To make sure we prepare enough for all participants, please sign up on the bulletin board across from the office. You can also contact the church office at 814-723-4930.

Our study will include the following among others:

John Wycliffe  
“The Morning Star”

Jan Hus  
“Moral Integrity”

Martin Luther  
“Here I Stand”

Ulrich Zwingli  
“God and Country”

Ignatius Loyola  
“Care for the Least”

John Wesley  
“The World is My Parish”

Charles Wesley  
“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

As a way to help support the needs of local food pantries, First Methodist Church will be collecting macaroni throughout March.

# It's March Macaroni Madness!

*During the entire month of March we will be collecting macaroni!*

**Any Type of Macaroni You Like!**

Spaghetti	Elbow
Rotini	Lasagna
Penne	Cavatappi
Ziti	Farfalle

Bring the macaroni in to the church and place it into the “Macaroni Madness” container.

